

From: Paul Boyer [mailto:paulb@selfhelpenterprises.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2004 1:13 PM
To: CalEPA Environmental Justice Program
Cc: Adrian Perez; David Warner; Sylvia Soria; Katie Amos; Tom Collishaw
Subject: Comments on Environmental Justice Action Plan

Dear Ms. Doduc:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the CAIEPA Environmental Justice Action Plan. We at Self-Help Enterprises wish to comment on Section 3.2 of the proposed plan related to a Pilot Project water resources management. The current wording for the recommended pilot project in this category is:

- "The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) staff will lead a pilot project in North Central California, focusing on water resources management and related environmental issues in a tribal or rural community."

This recommendation brings up the following questions:

What is the geographical definition of north central California?

Does this include Fresno and Tulare County?

Why was this area targeted?

Can other parts of the State be targeted?

How broadly is "water resources management" defined?

Can it include drinking water quality issues?

Can pilot projects look at synergistic causes of health issues (eg: air and water)?

Will there be any advantages to the community or tribe for participating as a pilot project?

Will there be additional or prioritized funding for community or tribe to solve problem(s)?

We request that this category be broad enough to include pilot projects that serve EJ communities in the San Joaquin Valley. We also suggest that the pilot project be structured to help expedite a long term solution to problems and be structured in such a way to prioritize funding for these long term solution(s) in the tribe or rural community addressed in the pilot project.